

MONDAY 24th February, 2020 TERM 1 WEEK 5



### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bethany Families,

Last Friday we gathered in our parish church to mark the beginning of our school year with a Mass of Thanksgiving.

The Gospel reading for the day taken from Mark's Gospel (7:31-37) records the miracle of Jesus healing a deaf and mute man. In this extraordinary event Jesus encounters a man whose life is closed to communication. In the dramatic climax of the story Jesus says to the man, 'Ephphatha!'

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meaning, 'Be opened!' Jesus' words and action enabled the restoration of the man's ears and tongue, giving back his power of hearing and speech.

The focus of the story is understandably the miracle taking place. Less obvious is that in the action of healing the man, Christ made himself ceremonially unclean according to the Jewish law of the day. Christ's act of healing in this case came with significant consequences.

In healing the man's condition, Jesus challenges the practice of maintaining ritual cleanliness at all costs. In acting to heal the deaf and dumb man, Jesus rejected the narrow-minded practice of the day that left people ritually clean but spiritually poor. In other words, His compassion came with a price. A price Jesus was more than willing to pay.

The Gospel time and time again shows us that if we wish to follow Christ, we need to turn our words into actions. Compassionate actions that come from a place of empathy (walking in the shoes of others) and carried out with humility (without pride or feeling superior). Our actions do matter. What's more, actions speak louder than words.

We are grateful for the large number of parents and families who were able to attend our Opening School Mass. We thank our Parish priest Father Suresh for his pastoral leadership of our school community.

We look forward with hope and joy to God's abundant blessings throughout this year of learning at Bethany Catholic Primary School.

We pray that we seek to always live by the compassionate example of Christ, as exemplified in our school motto: 'In Christ We Love and Serve'.

Until Next time,

Sergio Rosato

Principal

Preach the gospel at all times. Use words only when necessary.

St Francis of Assisi



### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

#### **Staff Professional Learning**

Teachers share a significant responsibility in preparing young people to lead successful and productive lives. Effective teachers can be a source of inspiration and, equally importantly, provide a dependable and consistent influence on young people as they make choices about further education, work and life. Developing professional standards for teachers that can guide professional learning, practice and engagement facilitates the improvement of teacher quality and contributes positively to the public standing of the profession. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers promote and encourage all teachers to engage in professional learning.

Please find outlined below the ongoing learning opportunities that our teachers will be involved in over the next fortnight.

#### Week 5

- Tuesday 25th February Miss Joseph will engage in Reading Recovery Training.
- Friday 28th February The following staff will be attending the RE Curriculum Ignite Day:
   Mr Rosato, Mrs Donlan, Mrs Wakim, Mrs Wilson and Miss Ahern.

#### Week 6

All Professional Learning will occur on site.

# "Who dares to teach must never cease to learn."

- John Cotton Dana

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 24th February St Dominic's visit - Years 5 and 6 boys, 2:00pm Tuesday 25th February 2020 Parramatta Football Trial- Kellyville boys - 8:30am, girls - 1:30pm Tuesday 25th February Reconciliation, 6 White -12:00pm Tuesday 25th February Reconciliation Workshop 2—4:15pm-5:15pm / 7:00pm -8:00pm Tuesday 25th February Parent/Teacher Evening, Session 1: 6:30pm-7:00pm Session 2: 7:00-7:30pm (repeat) Ash Wednesday Mass, led by Year 4 - 9:00am, St Padre Wednesday 26th February Pio Church Thursday 27th February Reconciliation, 4 Red 12:00pm Thursday 27th February Reconciliation Workshop 2, Bethany school 4:15pm -5:15pm / 7:00pm—8:00pm SRC/Year 6 Leaders Induction - 1:45pm (Early Lunch Thursday 27th February 12:45-1:30pm) Friday 28th February 9am Parish Mass - Year 2 MACKILLOP Basketball and Tennis Trials Friday 28th February Friday 28th February Penola Catholic College Visit - Years 5 and 6, 11:00 am St Padre Pio Children's Mass—9:30am Sunday 1st March Whole School led by Year 6 Sunday 1st - Saturday 7th Catholic Schools Week March Monday 2nd March Catholic Schools Week Liturgy 8:30am - Open Classroom 9:15am - Liturgy Catholic Schools Week Bethany tour 9:30-10:30am Monday 2nd March Monday 2nd March 2020 Parramatta Netball Trials – 12:00pm, Windsor Monday 2nd March 2020 Parramatta Rugby League Trials 9:30 am -The Ponds Monday 2nd March Reconciliation Workshop 3, - Bethany 4:15pm -5:15pm and 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Thursday 5th March Catholic Schools Week Bethany tour, 1:45pm - 2:45pm Thursday 5th March Reconciliation Workshop 3 at Bethany, 4:15pm -5:15pm /

7:00pm - 8:00pm

### **OTHER MATTERS**

#### **Parent Information Evening**

This short but important information session for parents & carers will take place on Tuesday 25 February 2020. Session 1 will commence at 6.30 and conclude at 7pm. A repeat session will commence at 7pm and conclude at 7.30pm. All sessions will take place in grade classrooms.

#### **National Day Against Bullying**

Our school will be participating in this focus again as we have over recent years. The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA) is an important day to mark Australian school communities standing together against bullying and violence.

In 2020, NDA school communities will be asked to share their commitment to say Bullying. No Way! and put their anti-bullying programs in the spotlight.

The Bullying. No Way! website equips schools and families with a range of materials, activity ideas and resources to help ensure a day of positive action.

Teaching and parent resources inform about:

- What is bullying
- What is not Bullying
- Strategies to assist against bullying behaviour
- Strategies to assist bystanders



Friday 20 March 2020

For more information visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/NationalDay/ForSchools

#### **Enrolment Period Now Open – Kindergarten 2021**

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2021 are now open. Enrolment packs are available from the school office. Enrolment forms can be downloaded online at www.bethanyglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au

The first official enrolment period for Kindergarten closes on Friday 29 May. Enrolments for Kindergarten will be considered after this date based on availability of places.

Please contact the school's Enrolment's Officer, Mrs Elizabeth Manoukian on 4723 3700

#### Catholic Schools Week - Guided Tours of Bethany Catholic Primary School

Catholic Schools Week this year will take place from Sunday 1 March to Saturday 7 March. Catholic Schools Week celebrates the strengths and distinctiveness of Catholic schools, and highlights the significant contributions made to their communities.

During this week we will be hosting two opportunities to witness the learning, the relationships and activities that typically occur in our school for prospective families looking to enrol children in 2021 in Kindergarten and also Grades 1-6.

The guided tours will take place on Tuesday 3 March from 9.30am - 10.30am and Thursday 5 March from 1.45pm - 2.45pm

Prospective families can book into one of these school tour times by emailing <a href="mailto:Bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au">Bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au</a> These Tours are hosted by the Principal and/or Assistant Principal and involve a learning walk and feature viewing classrooms and key aspects and features of student learning at Bethany Catholic Primary School.

More information about Catholic Schools Week at Bethany will be communicated shortly via the SkoolBag app.



### **REC - Mrs Donlan**



Last week our Bethany community gathered to celebrate the Eucharist to mark the beginning of the school year. We welcomed our new Kindergarten students, new staff and other new students who have joined us from Years 1 to 6. It was a wonderful celebration presided over by Father Suresh. Our new principal Mr Sergio Rosato and Miss Joseph led us with live music and singing. Students from various grades took part in the entrance procession that encouraged us to see 'that we are part of a larger family in God's kingdom.'

It was wonderful to have so many parents and grandparents join us as well.









### REC - Cont'd

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolises the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us that life passes away on Earth.

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

#### <u>ASH WEDNESDAY MASS</u>

You are invited to join us for our Celebration of the Eucharist that marks the beginning of the season Lent.

When: Wednesday 26th February

Time: 9:00am

Where: Padre Pio Parish Church



WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS AND HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - Week 6 - LITURGY

Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is an annual event and involves the communities of all 591 Catholic primary and secondary schools across NSW and the ACT. Catholic Schools Week is about celebration. The main aim of CSW is to raise awareness and celebrate the strength and distinctiveness of Catholic schools across the State.

At Bethany one of the key ways we will be celebrating is with a liturgy.

When: Monday 2nd March

Time: 9:15am - 10:00am followed by an early recess that you can share with your child/children.

Where: Bethany School Hall

NB: Before the liturgy we have OPEN CLASSROOMS starting at 8:40am.

### **LITERACY - Miss Aherns**



#### The School Writing Competition for 2020 is NOW OPEN!

Calling all Australian school students... prep to grade 12...

Write a poem or short story for your chance to win \$1,000 cash (\$500 for you & \$500 for your school)! As well as one of the AWESOME prizes above.

All it takes is a burst of inspiration, a dash of creativity and a little bit of effort for great poems and stories to appear! We can't wait to read yours!

Entry is FREE! Entries close Tuesday 31st March, 2020.



Stuck for ideas?
Use one of these story starters



#### There is NO theme

You can write about whatever your heart desires!

- \* Poems no longer than 16 lines. Stories no more than 500 words.
- \* Entries must be in by Tuesday 31st March 2020

#### Story Starters

See if any of these kick start your imagination!

- Whoever said 'Pigs can't fly' had never been to THIS farm...
- 2. I'm so proud of myself, today I broke the world record for...
- I'd always wanted a superpower but never in a million years thought it would be this...
- 4. Being a famous YouTuber is awesome. It's the best job in the world. Especially the part when...
- 5. I stared at the lotto ticket in shock. I had just won \$50 million dollars!!!

Enter online: <a href="www.write4fun.net">www.write4fun.net</a>
Email: <a href="mailto:admin@write4fun.net">admin@write4fun.net</a>

Mail to: Po Box 2734, Nerang DC, Qld, 4211 Fax to: (07) 5574 3644 Ph: (07) 5574 3622

# **MATHEMATICS**Ms Vion and Mrs Cutajar

It is often acknowledged that children should practice reading and spelling at home to build their capacity and understandings in these areas. Many don't recognise that similarly, mathematics should be engaged in at home for the same reasons.

The Victorian government has a fantastic and informative website on the importance of engaging in maths and numeracy at home. It includes information on evidence & research, resources, and additional activities & supports.

Below is the link to the specific page.

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/maths/Pages/maths-and-numeracy-at-home.aspx

One great way to spend time with your children is to engage together in a maths activity. This not only encourages conversation and bonding, but has the added benefit of honing maths skills.

One activity you might like to try is Go Fish (refer to table on following page).

Of course, in our hectic schedules, sitting down to play a game is not always possible. The following website (<a href="https://www.mathplayground.com/">https://www.mathplayground.com/</a>) offers fun games that drill basic skills. These games are offered at grade levels 1 through to 6. Quite a few of them encourage quick recall of operational facts in a race style game they can play against the computer or other people.



### **MATHEMATICS - Cont'd**

Go Fish		
Number of players	2 or more	
Equipment	Pack of playing cards  Ace = 1,  picture cards can be:  Removed  Or assigned a value such as 10, 15, 20, 100	
How to play	<ul> <li>Shuffle cards and deal 7 to each player. Place the rest of the cards face down in the middle.</li> <li>Students search hand for any matches and put those cards to the side.</li> </ul>	
100	Students take turns to ask another player for a specific card needed to make a match with one of theirs.	
	• If asked player has card, they give requested card to asker. If they don't have asked for card, the asker draws the top card from the pile of cards in the middle. Winner is either the first to empty their hand or the player at the end with the most pairs.	
Focus ideas for games	<ul> <li>From easier to harder</li> <li>Matching face value of cards (great for early kindy)</li> <li>Friends of 10 (if I had a 1, I would ask for 9)</li> <li>1 more/ 1 less</li> <li>5 more/ 5 less</li> </ul> Or make up your own cards/ modify cards and try playing for: <ul> <li>10 more/ 10 less</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>Doubles</li><li>Halves</li></ul>	
Questions to ask as you play	<ul> <li>What do you hope to pull?</li> <li>What do you need to win?</li> <li>How did you know they were a match?</li> </ul>	

### **SPORT - Mrs Neilly**

#### NEPEAN ZONE SWIMMING

Well done to all our swimmers who represented Bethany at the Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. It has been wonderful to hear about your races and some personal bests that were achieved.

#### A special mention to:

- \*Addison (4B) for Zone Junior Girls Runner up.
- \*Matilda (5W) who got a national time for the 50m Freestyle Multi-class.

I would like to thank Mrs Naiker and Mrs Gibson for attending the day and all the parents who helped fulfil our timing duty.



#### PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN SWIMMING

The Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival was held last Thursday at Blacktown Aquatic Centre. Congratulations to the following swimmers who made it to the next level. Results will be posted in the next newsletter.

Jayda, 2W	Hannah, 6B
Addison, 4B	Matilda, 5W
Charlotte, 5R	Neva, 6R
Brody, 3B	Amelia, 6R



### SPORT, cont'd

#### PDCPSSC WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

The Parramatta Diocese Catholic Primary School Sport Council Website and Facebook page is a great way to find out information on Sport in our Diocese. Visit <a href="https://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/">www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/</a>





#### MACKILLOP BASKETBALL TRIALS

Alexavier (6R) will be competing and trialling at the Mackillop level Basketball Competition in Wollongong on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February!

We wish you luck and hope you enjoy this wonderful experience!



#### DIVING

Students born between 2012 and 2007 with diving experience may nominate for selection in the MacKillop Dive Team to compete at the 2020 NSW PSSA Diving Championships.

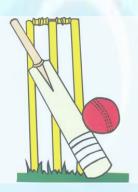
Please contact Mrs Neilly for more information.



### SPORT, cont'd

### **CRICKET FUN**

Hopefully your child can tell you about the skills they have been learning during sport and during the Mascot Challenge!











### LIBRARY - Mrs Liepa

We are very proud of our well-stocked library, housing a wonderful selection of books for our readers. All students have the opportunity to borrow a number of books from the library each week. Students can borrow before school or at lunch times each Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Students visit the library weekly with their class teacher on the following days:

Kinder - Monday Year 1 - Tuesday Year 2 - Monday

Year 3 - Wednesday Year 4 - Wednesday Year 5 - Tuesday

Year 6 - Wednesday

Library borrowing is an important part of the school week this time allows students to engage with a diverse range of books to extend their imagination and develop a lifelong love of reading.

All children are encouraged to borrow books to read both at school and at home. The children, with the help of parents, need to remember to bring along their <u>library bag</u> so they can borrow books for the week.

With the encouragement of parents and teachers, children have the best chance to foster a love of literature and reading.

#### Kindergarten

Our Kindergarten students met Mrs Frugniet and Josie, our seeing dog. She told us how Josie helps Mrs Frugniet guide her around the school and how we can help by:

- 1. Making sure we put all our rubbish in the bin
- 2. Not to distract Josie whilst she is working
- 3. No patting Josie whilst she is wearing her harness



Year 2 Borrowing - "We love our library time..."

Happy reading!
Mrs Liepa



### **P&F ASSOCIATION**

### **BETHANY P&F ASSOCIATION**



On Wednesday 19 February Bethany P & F Association held its Annual General Meeting. The meeting was also attended by Principal Mr Sergio Rosato, Assistant Principal Miss Pascale Joseph and Religious Education Coordinator Mrs Jodie Donlan.

At this meeting, the P & F Executive Committee Positions – President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary were declared open as well as some General Committee positions (grade reps, parish liaison, PRC rep).

During the meeting, nominations for the four executive positions <u>were not</u> received and therefore the P & F Association at Bethany will not be able to function in this mode this year. The school will therefore be coordinating community and fundraising events during the year and calling on special purpose parent volunteer teams for each event.

We extend our immense gratitude to the outgoing P & F Executive - President Louise Gal, Treasurer Rachelle Clauna & Secretary Maria Holy for their outstanding commitment in coordinating and leading the various community building events that enriched both our school and student learning during 2019.

The fundraising of the P & F contributed to the upgrading and purchasing of valuable school resources which included new laptop computers and a new audio visual system for our school hall which will be installed next week.

We look forward to being able to work with parents in support of our students and their learning during 2020.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education.

If your child is sick or absent you are required to notify the school on the first day of absence if at all possible. All explanations to the school must be provided within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence.

Absences can be explained using one of the following methods:

- 1. By submitting an absentee form via the SkoolBag app
- 2. Emailing the school at Bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au
- 3. Telephoning the school office on 4723 3700
- 4. Sending a note to school with your child.

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe or the explanation has not been accepted, the school will record the absence as unexplained or unjustified on the student's record. The school will not be able to accept explanations which are not received within the 7 day timeframe.

Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances eg attending a funeral.

#### Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Parents of children aged 6 to 17 years are legally required to ensure their children attend school every day or provide an explanation if they are absent. Notifying the school and providing an explanation for your child's absence will fulfil this legal responsibility.

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for schools. Parents need to know if their child isn't at school, and schools need to know when and why a child is absent. Notifying the school of your child's absence helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in school.

#### What is your responsibility?

- Ensure your child attends school every day
- Notify the school immediately if your child is absent
- Provide an explanation for any absences within 7 days
- Make sure the school has your correct contact details so that you can receive attendance information about your child
- Do not send your child to school if they are sick.



### **WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE**

On Monday 16th March, Ryan (6R) is shaving his hair to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation. The shave will take place at 8:30am during Assembly in the school hall. Let's all get behind Ryan and support him by sending your child to school with a **gold coin donation** on the day.

Read Ryan's article below.



Hi, my name is Ryan and I'm in 6 Red. I was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in January 2018, a couple weeks before starting Year 4 and my 9th birthday. I have been on treatment for over 2 years now and take my last dose of chemotherapy on February 29th.

Treatment has been long and really difficult. I had a lot of very serious complications and I've spent a lot of time in hospital. I hope for better treatment options for blood cancer in the future because I don't want anyone else to go through what I have. The best way I can help is to spread awareness and raise money for research so that's why I'm shaving my hair for the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave on Monday March 16th at 8:30am.

One of the less serious side effects of treatment was losing my hair but as you can see from the photo to the right, since it's grown back, I haven't wanted to lose any of it. I would be so thankful if the children of

Bethany would bring in a coin to donate to the Leukaemia Foundation and help cheer me on.





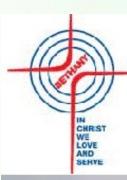






Ryan Nesbit's youtube link for the Greatest Shave.
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=w9R\_tu5vUm8&feature=youtu.be
You can donate to Ryan's team by using this link:
https://secure.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/registrant/TeamFundratsingPage.aspx?TeamiD=118452

### **BETHANY OPEN DAY**





### Bethany Catholic Primary School

### Open Day 2020

We are accepting Enrolments now for 2021 Kindergarten children.

We have limited places available for grades 1-6.

Please join us for our guided tour with two sessions to choose from

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 – 9:30 – 10:30am Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – 1:45 – 2:45pm

The motto of Bethany, 'In Christ We Love and Serve', reflects the principles and values of a Christian community.

We have a commitment to the promotion of educational and personal excellence. We believe that education enriches and empowers the individual.

Please contact the Office on 4723 3700 or email bethany@parra.catholic.edu.au to book in a session. We are located at 34-38 William Howell Drive Glenmore Park 2745





### **OPEN DAYS**

### Strive for Higher Things at Catherine McAuley Westmead



**Enrolling now for 2021 - Applications close 27th March 2020** 

### **OPEN EVENING** Wednesday 4th March 2020 4pm - 7pm



Catherine McAuley Westmead, 2 Darcy Rd, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au



Co-educational Year 7 -12
75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

#### Enrolling now for all year groups 2021

#### Open Evening Tuesday 10 March 2020 5.00pm to 8.00pm

- Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders
- Tours of the College facilities
- ♦ Enrolment packages available
- Principal Presentations

Enquiries: 4728 8100

Website: <u>www.penolaemuplains.catholic.edu.au</u>

Like us on Facebook: @PenolaEmuPlains
Follow us on Twitter: @PenolaEmuPlains



### **OPEN DAYS**



ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE

#### **OPEN DAY 2020** SUNDAY, 8 MARCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL OPEN DAY AT THE COLLEGE

CENTRED ON THE NEEDS OF EVERY STUDENT BY OFFERING AN EXTENSIVE CURRICULUM AND CONTEMPORARY FACILITIES

#### **MORNING SESSION**

Commences at 10.00am, followed by a tour of the College at 10.30am

#### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

Commences at 12.30pm, followed by a tour of the College at 1.00pm





A 54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747 **T** 02 4731 1933 ₩ www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au **E** info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au



### OPEN DAY

Sunday, 8 March 2020

10.00am - 2.00pm

You are warmly invited to join us for Open Day 2020.

Principal's Welcome at 10.00am and 12.00pm

Bookings can be made by visiting the College website www.olmc.nsw.edu.au

A work of the Sisters of Mercy Parramatta since 1889

YEAR 7, 2022 ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday, 24 March

MERCY

COMPASSION

JUSTIC

DIGNITY

XCELLENCE

IOSPITALITY

STEWARDSHIP

SERVIC

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**



## GET MOTIV8TED DURING THE APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT THE ONE AND ONLY MOTIV8SPORTS SUPER CAMP.

Held only once each year Super Camp is a sports festival designed just for kids. Super Camp is an energetic mix of sport, music, street culture, art and dance mashed up to create the ultimate atmosphere for kids who love having fun. With a live DJ pumping the beats and multiple prize giveaways, this is an event not to be missed. All camps are 8:30am - 3:30pm daily non-sleep over events.

#### CHECK OUT THE CAMP DATES BELOW



CAMP #1 APRIL 16th-17th - Nepean Christian School CAMP #2 APRIL 20th-21st - St Clair HIGH SCHOOL CAMP #3 APRIL 23rd-24th - Penrith Anglican College